



The Parish Community of

**SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA**

427 Stanhope Road, Sparta New Jersey 07871

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Parish Office: 973-729-1682 Fax: 973-729-0702

*Love God, Love others and Make Disciples of Jesus Christ*

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Cathy Pivowar

Robert Medina

Trustees



*Divine Mercy Sunday*

**April 19, 2020**

**CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST**

**Sunday Mass will be live streaming on our Facebook page at 9:30. Website at 10:30AM**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/saintkaterispartanj>

We will continue to keep you updated through our website, E-mails, Flocknotes and Facebook.

To join Flocknotes (text message app) text "stkateri" to 84576.

OFFICE HOURS - At this time please call or e-mail the parish.

**8:30 am – 3:00 pm : Monday – Thursday**

**8:30 am – 12:00 nn : Fridays (closed during summer)**

**Religious Edu. / Youth Min. 973 -729-0489**

**9:00 am – 3:00 pm: Tue. – Thurs. and by appointment**

## The mercy of god in superabundance!



WHAT A GRACE-FILLED DAY THIS IS! IT IS THE EIGHTH AND FINAL DAY OF THE OCTAVE OF EASTER. ON THIS EIGHTH DAY OF EASTER WE CELEBRATE DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY. IT IS A DAY WHEN THE FLOOD-GATES OF MERCY ARE OPENED WIDE AND GOD LAVISHES US WITH MORE THAN WE COULD EVER HOPE FOR. DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY HAS BEEN CELEBRATED FOR YEARS AS A PRIVATE DEVOTION. BUT IN THE YEAR 2000, POPE SAINT JOHN PAUL II, WHO HIMSELF WAS AN EXTRAORDINARY INSTRUMENT OF GOD'S MERCY, PUT THIS FEAST ON THE CHURCH'S OFFICIAL CALENDAR AS HE RAISED SISTER FAUSTINA TO SAINTHOOD.

SAINT FAUSTINA WAS A MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION OF SISTERS OF OUR LADY OF MERCY IN KRAKOW, POLAND. SHE DIED IN 1938. SHE CAME FROM A SIMPLE AND POOR FAMILY OF FARMERS, HAD ONLY THREE YEARS OF SIMPLE EDUCATION AND PERFORMED THE HUMBLEST OF TASKS IN HER CONVENT. BUT SHE ALSO WAS A MYSTIC WHO WAS PRIVILEGED TO HAVE MANY PRIVATE REVELATIONS FROM OUR LORD WHICH SHE RECORDED IN HER DIARY OF DIVINE MERCY.

SHE WRITES OF HER EXPERIENCE ON FEBRUARY 22, 1931:  
**IN THE EVENING, WHEN I WAS IN MY CELL, I BECAME AWARE OF THE LORD JESUS CLOTHED IN A WHITE GARMENT. ONE HAND WAS RAISED IN BLESSING, THE OTHER WAS TOUCHING THE GARMENT AT THE BREAST. FROM THE OPENING OF THE GARMENT AT THE BREAST THERE CAME FORTH TWO LARGE RAYS, ONE RED AND THE OTHER PALE. IN SILENCE I GAZED INTENTLY AT THE LORD; MY SOUL WAS OVERWHELMED WITH FEAR, BUT ALSO WITH GREAT JOY. AFTER A WHILE JESUS SAID TO ME, 'PAINT AN IMAGE ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN YOU SEE, WITH THE INSCRIPTION: JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU.'**

LATER, JESUS EXPLAINED TO HER IN ANOTHER VISION:  
**"THE PALE RAY STANDS FOR THE WATER WHICH MAKES SOULS RIGHTEOUS; THE RED RAY STANDS FOR THE BLOOD WHICH IS THE LIFE OF SOULS. THESE TWO RAYS ISSUED FORTH FROM THE DEPTHS OF MY MOST TENDER MERCY AT THAT TIME WHEN MY AGONIZING HEART WAS OPENED BY A LANCE ON THE CROSS....FORTUNATE IS THE ONE WHO WILL DWELL IN THEIR SHELTER, FOR THE JUST HAND OF GOD SHALL NOT LAY HOLD OF HIM."**

JESUS SPOKE AGAIN TO HER OF HIS DESIRE THAT THE SOLEMNITY OF DIVINE MERCY BE ESTABLISHED:  
**"ON THAT DAY (THE 8TH DAY OF EASTER EACH YEAR) THE VERY DEPTHS OF MY TENDER MERCY ARE OPEN. I POUR OUT A WHOLE OCEAN OF GRACES UPON THOSE SOULS WHO APPROACH THE FOUNT OF MY MERCY. THE SOUL THAT WILL GO TO CONFESSION AND RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION SHALL OBTAIN COMPLETE FORGIVENESS OF SINS AND PUNISHMENT. ON THAT DAY ALL THE DIVINE FLOODGATES THROUGH WHICH GRACE FLOW ARE OPENED. LET NO SOUL FEAR TO DRAW NEAR TO ME, EVEN THOUGH ITS SINS BE AS SCARLET. MY MERCY IS SO GREAT THAT NO MIND, BE IT OF MAN OR OF ANGEL, WILL BE ABLE TO FATHOM IT THROUGHOUT ALL ETERNITY."**

AS WE CELEBRATE DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, INTENSELY REFLECT UPON THE ABUNDANCE OF THIS GIFT THAT GOD WISHES TO POUR FORTH UPON US. THERE IS NO LIMIT TO HOW MUCH WE ARE LOVED BY OUR GOD OF PERFECT MERCY. AND TODAY, ON THIS THE EIGHTH DAY OF EASTER, WE SHOULD ESPECIALLY BE AWARE OF THE FACT THAT THE FLOODGATES OF HEAVEN ARE OPENED TO US TO AN UNIMAGINABLE DEGREE. TURN YOUR EYES TOWARD OUR MERCIFUL LORD AND BE OPEN TO ALL THAT HE WISHES TO BESTOW.

**LORD OF MERCY,** HELP ME TODAY TO BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND WHAT MERCY IS ALL ABOUT. HELP ME TO FIRST BE OPEN TO THE MERCY YOU WISH TO BESTOW UPON ME. AS I RECEIVE YOUR OWN DIVINE MERCY, HELP ME ALSO TO BE AN INSTRUMENT OF THAT MERCY FOR ALL TO SEE. JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU. (MY CATHOLIC LIFE)

## † MASSES FOR THE WEEK †

Fr. Vidal will pray for your loved ones at a private Mass each day.

### Monday, April 20: Easter Weekday

9:00 AM Karen Rendina

### Tuesday, April 21: Easter Weekday; Saint Anselm, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

9:00 AM All who have passed from Coronavirus

### Wednesday, April 22: Easter Weekday

9:00 AM Doctors, Nurses, Hospital Staff, Caregivers, Law Enforcement and all Rescue Workers

### Thursday, April 23: Easter Weekday; Saint George, Martyr; Saint Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr

9:00 AM People of the Parish

### Friday, April 24: Easter Weekday; Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr]

9:00 AM For those who are sick and in quarantine

### Sunday, April 26: THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:30 AM Carol Sweeney, Bobby Hilinski



## Prayers for the Sick:

We pray for Christopher Robak, Deacon Drew Calandriello, Margie Frazier, Al Saveriano, Henry Schubert, Liliana DiGangi, Tom Booth, Jason Duncan, Patrick Dillsworth, Brian Smith, Chris Auger, Margaret

Brennan, Brittany Johnson.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8  
Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7b-15  
Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21  
Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36  
Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15  
Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Mk 16:15-20

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

## Active Military Prayer List

Please pray for our Active Military:

Daniel Joseph (D.J.) Duguay, US Air Force; James Schoch, Infantry Second Lieutenant; Frank Cutrone, Second Lieutenant, US Army; LtCol Dan Murphy, US Marine Corps; LTJG Katherine Garza, US Navy; LTJG David Garza, US Navy; LCpl Josh Jackson US Marine Corps

May God keep them safe and protect them from all harm.

If you would like a love ones name added to the prayer list for the military, please call the parish center. 973-729-1682.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TIME,  
TALENT AND TREASURE**

**April 2020**

Collection totals for the month of April are not available at this time.

We are thankful for all those parishioners who contribute to the financial support of the church and who take stewardship so seriously.

**Your Sunday offering**

Even though our church is quiet, facility utilities do not go away. Needs of our community, ministry, and families still remain as well. We can not meet such needs without your help. As we are not able to serve in large groups or in person, our gifts of prayer and treasure are ever so important, even crucial to get us through this difficult time.

If you haven't already, please consider setting up a recurring gift online. It takes two simple steps and the rest is seamless, automatic, and very flexible. Please visit our donation page at:

[www.saintkateri.org/electronic-giving](http://www.saintkateri.org/electronic-giving)

You can also continue to mail your gifts and envelopes to the parish at: 427 Stanhope Rd, Sparta, NJ 07871

May God bless you and your loved ones.

## Faith Formation Corner

Dear Faith Formation Families: Please join us this Sunday, 4/19/2020 for **Divine Mercy Sunday**. We will celebrate Mass at 9:30am, and, in honor of Divine Mercy Sunday, we will all pray the Divine Mercy chaplet together at 3pm. Please pray with us as a parish family for God's Mercy on our whole world.

Saint Kateri Faith Formation classes and retreats are suspended until further notice.

Our First Communions and Confirmations are also suspended.

Please read the details about this in the Bishop's letter in this bulletin or on our website. <https://www.paterndioocese.org/coronavirus>

Refer to the section labeled: "HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES FOR PASTORAL LIFE IN THE DIOCESE OF PATERSON".

For all other questions about Faith Formation please contact Cheryl Wallace, DRE [cherylw@saintkateri.org](mailto:cherylw@saintkateri.org)

### Are you In need of help?

#### Someone you know in need of help?

A delivering of food, a cooked meal, picking up a prescription. Maybe you know of someone who could use a phone call just to say "hello". Are you out of work?

Call and leave a message or e-mail for anyone of the staff members.

We are here and want to help.

Thank you to all who have been calling to offer your time and treasure to people in need.

God Bless You.



## Knights of Columbus

**You can still help  
with donations for the  
Samaritan Inn.**

Please drop kids snacks, toiletries, bath tissue, tissues, paper towels, napkins, and feminine products into the box outside the glass doors on the left side of the entrance. The Knights will check the box daily and deliver to the shelter.

## Of Possible Interest...

**Project Self-Sufficiency opens food pantry to county residents.**

Thanks to generous donations from the NORWESCAP Food Bank, the Sussex County Board of Social Services, and numerous kind-hearted individuals, the food pantry at Project Self-Sufficiency is open and available to residents of Sussex and Warren counties, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Those who are interested in accessing The Food Project: Nourishing Our Neighbors at Project Self-Sufficiency can visit the campus, 127 Mill St., in Newton, or call the agency, 973-940-3500 or 844-807-3500. Monetary and food donations will be accepted at the agency Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monetary donations can also be made at [www.projectselfsufficiency.org](http://www.projectselfsufficiency.org).

## **Pope Francis Accepts Resignation of Bishop Arthur Serratelli of Paterson; Names Father Kevin Sweeney of Diocese of Brooklyn as Successor**

2020-04-14 | USCCB News Releases

WASHINGTON—Pope Francis has accepted the resignation of Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli, 75, from the pastoral governance of the Diocese of Paterson and has named Father Kevin J. Sweeney, a priest of the Diocese of Brooklyn as Bishop-elect of Paterson.

The appointment was publicized in Washington, D.C. on April 15, 2020 by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States. Bishop-elect Sweeney was born on January 17, 1970 in Elmhurst, New York and was ordained to the priesthood on June 28, 1997 for the Diocese of Brooklyn.



Father Sweeney graduated from St. John's University, Queens, New York in 1992 with a Bachelor of Arts and received a Master of Divinity from Immaculate Conception Seminary in Huntington, New York in 1997. Father Sweeney assignments in the Diocese of Brooklyn after ordination include: Parochial Vicar at St. Nicholas of Tolentine Parish in Jamaica (1997-2003); Coordinator of the Irish Apostolate (1999-2001); Parochial Vicar at Our Lady of Sorrows, Corona (2003-2004); Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Brooklyn (2004-2010); Chaplain at Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School, Brooklyn (2005); Administrator at St. Michael Parish, Brooklyn (2010-2012); Spiritual Director at Jovenes de Valor (2010-2013). His service includes membership on the Seminary Admissions Board (2010-present); Presbyteral Council (2011-2016); Dean of the Brooklyn 8 Deanery (2013-present); Vocations Representative (2014-present); and the Priest Personnel Assignment Board (2017-present). Bishop-elect Sweeney, who speaks both English and Spanish, is currently Pastor of St. Michael Church in Brooklyn where he has served since March 2012. The Diocese of Paterson is comprised of 1,214 square miles in the State of New Jersey and has a total population of 1,153,982 of which 430,000 are Catholic.

--- Keywords: U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, USCCB, Pope Francis, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio, Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli, Father Kevin J. Sweeney, Diocese of Paterson, Diocese of Brooklyn. ### Media Contacts: Chieko Noguchi or Miguel Guilarte 202-541-3200

## **Sparta Ecumenical Food Pantry Urgently Needs your Help.**

The Sparta Ecumenical Food Pantry urgently needs donations to meet increasing demand. Please remember your neighbors in need when you shop for your families.

Demand is up. During the corona virus event, Sparta Kiwanis members are no longer able to continue monthly collections at Stop & Shop, which yielded more than 15 full baskets of food and more than \$500 on a weekend collection.

Most needed are pasta & sauce, PB&J, mac& cheese, canned soup, canned tuna or chicken, meal-in-a-can (beef stew, ravioli, SpaghettiOs, beefaroni, etc), cereal, coffee/tea, canned veggies and fruit, kid-friendly snacks, including pudding and jello. The pantry can also use feminine hygiene products, shampoo & conditioner, diapers and pet food (smaller bags). If you come across toilet paper, hand sanitizer or disinfectant wipes and can part with them, please do.

Please note: Also welcome are cash donations made out to the Sparta Ecumenical Food pantry - this enables the food pantry too, in most cases, buy food items at discounted prices.

Remember that many of the Pantry families have kids who are now at home all day, so consider including kid-friendly snacks and cereals and individually wrapped Easter candies!

Drop off at Sparta Presbyterian Church 32 Main St, Sparta, NJ 07871 during Pantry hours or at any other time.

Weds. 9- 3

Thurs. 9 - 12

Fri 9 - 1

Thanks in advance.

Sparta Ecumenical Food Pantry President, Board Members, Sparta Ecumenical Churches, and Friends

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